(d) whether any responsibility has been fixed on the officers responsible for such delays; if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken against those responsible therefor; and

(e) what action is proposed to be taken to ensure that retirement benefits are paid to the retiring employees on or before the date of retirement, as is being done in other Government offices, in accordance with the directives issued by the Department of Personnel and Pensions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) in most cases retirement dues are paid promptly. In some cases short delays in payment of some retirment dues occur because of non-settlement of audit objections relating to payments made to officers during their careers and lacunae in their Service Books.

(c) The number of cases in which pension payment orders have to issue are:

(i)	more than six months	4
(ii)	more than three months	7
(iii)	more than one month	12

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Ministry has and will continue to emphasise to all concerned officers to ensure that there is no delay in payment of retirement dues.

Review of Indo-Nepal Treaty

4559. SHRI O. P. KHOLI:
SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:
SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:
SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether The Prime Minister of Nepal, Shri Man Mohan Adhikari, during his recent visit to our country, had urged India to review the 1950 Indo-Nepal Friendship Treaty to conform to the changed circumstances;

(b) if so, the specific changes that he wanted to be made in the Treaty; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) During the visit to India of the Prime Minister of Nepal Mr. Man Mohan Adhikari from 10-14 April, 1995, the discussions covered different aspects of bilateral relations, including review of the Treaty of Peace and Friendship of 1950. The two sides agreed to continue discussions on this and all relevant issues of bilateral interest at the appropriate level of the two countries. No precise proposals for specific changes in the treaty were made during the visit.

Letters written by MPs to the MEA

4560. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of letters written by the Members of Parliament to the Ministry during the period from 1st April, 1994 to 31st March, 1995;

(b) what is the number of letters acknowledged out of them;

(c) what is the number of letters in respect of which final replied were sent; and

(d) what is the break-up of final letters issued by the Ministry, containing positive and negative replies, respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.